(C O P Y)

November 3, 1933

S
Insect Control

The Forester,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

The following summarizes the data received from the Forests in this Region as regards insect losses during the present year:

Conditions on the following forests are normal: Apache, Cibola, Coconino, Coronado, Crook, Gila, Kaibab, Lincoln, Santa Fe and Tonto.

The Carson reports the tent caterpillar infestation in the aspen stands is considerably less than in the year 1932, the number of egg-laying adults being below that of last year, and it is expected that the attack in 1934 will be less than in 1933. The spruce budworm infestation on this Forest remains about the same. Bark beetles are normal.

On the Prescott Forest the bark beetle infestation is increasing over that reported in 1932, with the area south of Prescott now being worked in connection with the twig blight control showing five trees per section. Some of this area will be cleaned in connection with the twig blight work, but a portion will not be so covered. Big Bug Mesa shows eight trees infested per section; Arrastra Creek south of Mt. Union and Horsethief Basin in the Crown King country show twenty infested trees per section; Mingus Mountain area is normal, except in Kendall Canyon-Burnt Canyon area where some infestation occurs, as is the case in the Camp Wood region. The Supervisor is planning to handle the Mingus Mountain area with a small ECW crew, and probably some of the Crown King country can be so handled. The remainder of the area in Crown King and that south of Prescott will require money for control, aside from ECW. It is estimated that a three to four-man crew working during the winter can affect control, and it is believed that an allotmentof $1200 will be ample to cover the cost of treating the area.

Conditions on the Sitgreaves are normal, except that some Ips damage has resulted from the timber stand improvement work in the vicinity of the Los Burros Camp.

On The Tusayan losses are being sustained on small areas scattered on four sections on the Grand Canyon sale area, and this office has asked the Supervisor to have the trees containing active broods cut, peeled and the bark burned. Stand improvement money will be used for this purpose. The total amount of work involved will be relatively light, since less than 100 trees are infested, but it was considerad advisable, in view of all the conditions surrounding the sale area to take immediate steps to handle the situation.

At the initiation of stand improvement work under ECW last spring it was considered necessary to so handle the material cut as to protect from Ips attacks the reserved stand of small poles on the area treated; consequently, the material cut under ECW above 4" in diameter between the initiation of the work and Sept. 15, was either completely peeled or peeled leaving strips of bark approximately 3" wide. This was considered necessary, since there was no assurance that stand improvement work would continue on the same and contiguous areas during the active period for insects. Peeling was discontinued on Sept. 15, since it was thought that after that time no broods would develop in the felled material.

It is yet too early to determine accurately whether sufficient insects developed on the areas so treated to cause a loss in the vicinity of treated areas. Examination of material cut and strip peeled shows a very heavy attack of Ips, but only a relatively small percent of the broods developed to the adult stage; consequently, it is believed that no appreciable loss from Ips will result from the work done during the summer and fall period.

The work of peeling increases the cost of stand improvement work, but it is believed to be fully justified especially if there is no assurance that work will continue on contiguous areas during the summer and fall. It is expected that the material cut from Sept. 15 on to early spring will dry out sufficiently to be safe as far as an epidemic of Ips is concerned.

Very truly yours,

FRANK C.W.POOLER, Regional Forester,

By: M. M. Cheney, Acting.